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COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 47/18 of 23 November 1992, the General Assembly took note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General (A/47/450 and Add.1). It requested the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) to continue cooperation in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, decolonization, fundamental human rights and economic and technical development; and encouraged the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to expand their cooperation with OIC.

2. In the same resolution, the General Assembly recommended that a general meeting between representatives of the secretariats of the United Nations system and OIC and its specialized institutions should be organized in 1993 at a date and place to be determined through consultations with the concerned organizations. It requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in cooperation with the Secretary-General of OIC, to continue encouraging the convening of sectoral meetings in certain areas of cooperation as a matter of priority, namely, areas of environment, disaster relief and science and technology, as recommended by the meetings of the focal points of the two organizations which were held in 1989 and 1990, including the follow-up to the sectoral meetings. It further requested the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the state of cooperation between the United Nations and OIC.

I. CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SECRETARIATS OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE AND REPRESENTATION AT MEETINGS

3. On 23 September 1992, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of OIC held their annual coordination meeting at United Nations Headquarters to discuss the agenda of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, particularly those items of concern and interest to OIC. In response to an invitation from OIC, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs of the Secretariat attended the coordination meeting on behalf of the Secretary-General.

4. The coordination meeting reviewed the current international situation, dealing in particular with issues concerning the Middle East and the question of Palestine; the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina; the situation in Somalia; the situation in Afghanistan; the situation in Nagorny Karabakh; the consequences of Iraqi aggression against Kuwait and non-compliance by Iraq with the Security Council resolutions; the situation in South Africa; and the critical economic situation in Africa.

5. On 15 May 1993, during his visit to United Nations Headquarters, Mr. Hamid Algabid, Secretary-General of OIC, met with the Secretary-General of the United Nations to discuss matters of common interest to the two organizations, in particular the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

6. At the invitation of OIC and the Government of Pakistan, the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) represented the Secretary-General of the United Nations at the Twenty-first Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held at Karachi, Pakistan, from 25 to 29 April 1993, at which he delivered a message on behalf of the Secretary-General.

7. During the period under review, representatives of OIC participated in the meetings of the Security Council and of the General Assembly.

8. Regular consultations were held and information exchanged between the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat and the general secretariat of OIC, as well as the Office of the Permanent Observer for OIC to the United Nations.

9. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 46/13 of 28 October 1991, a Sectoral Meeting on Science and Technology with Special Emphasis on Environment was held between representatives of the United Nations system and OIC, at Dhaka, from 19 to 22 December 1992. The report of the meeting will be issued as an addendum to the present report (A/48/422/Add.1).

II. FOLLOW-UP ACTION ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MEETINGS BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM AND THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE AND ITS SPECIALIZED INSTITUTIONS

10. It may be recalled that the United Nations system and OIC established areas which as a matter of priority would serve as the basis for their cooperation, and designated specific agencies and organizations on both sides to serve as focal points for each area for which action would be required as a matter of priority.

11. The organizations and agencies of the United Nations system serving as focal points for the areas for action as a matter of priority are as follows:

	Organization/agency	Area
1.	Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the Secretariat	Development of science and technology
2.	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)	Development of trade
3.	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	Technical cooperation among Islamic countries
4.	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Assistance to refugees
5.	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	Food security and agriculture

	Organization/agency	Area
6.	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	Education and eradication of illiteracy
7.	United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	Investment mechanisms and joint ventures
8.	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	Human resources development
9.	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Environment

12. Outlined below is a summary of the reports of the organizations and agencies serving as focal points concerning their cooperation with OIC in the areas requiring action as a matter of priority during the period under review.

A. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Development of trade

13. During the recent meeting of the Trade and Development Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), held in March 1993, a meeting was held between the Director-General of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and UNCTAD. It was agreed to pursue jointly the question of cooperation between OIC and the Central Asian Republics. To that end, it was agreed to propose the following draft agenda items for the ninth session of the Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC), to be held at Istanbul from 1 to 4 September 1993:

(a) Potential for extending the existing trade financing facility of the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) to the Central Asian Republics;

(b) Trade facilitation;

(c) Human resources development programmes that impart free market based skills in order to facilitate mutual economic and trade cooperation;

(d) Other aspects of economic cooperation.

14. It was also agreed that UNCTAD and ICDT would present a joint paper to COMCEC on the potential for cooperation with the Central Asian Republics and that the UNCTAD secretariat would provide ICDT with available data on the Central Asian Republics.

15. It was further agreed that during the next session of the OIC Commission on Trade and Development, to be held at Karachi, Pakistan, the UNCTAD representative would make a presentation on the results of the UNCTAD mission to the Central Asian Republics and to the secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) at Tehran.

16. The question of the IsDB trade financing facility interfacing or networking with the Arab Trade Financing Programme (ATFP) of the Arab Monetary Fund was also discussed. The potential for those trade financing facilities, individually or jointly, to support the trade financing requirements of the Central Asian Republics also came up for discussion. This matter would be taken up with IsDB, ATFP and ECO.

17. In the area of technology transfer, UNCTAD has continued cooperation with IsDB in the preparation and organization of a workshop on the role of intellectual property rights in the economic and technological development of OIC member countries. In addition, a seminar on debt management was jointly organized recently at Damascus. The possibility of organizing a seminar on the same subject in the French speaking African countries, as well as of establishing other areas of future cooperation, were discussed with a delegation from IsDB which visited UNCTAD in March 1993. The issues identified as areas of interest to IsDB which should be given priority were technical cooperation; economic cooperation among developing countries; shipping and transport, particularly in relation to the land-locked countries of its member countries; and the provision of trade and transportation information in respect of the Central Asian Republics. It is hoped that this visit will be followed up by an UNCTAD mission to Jeddah in order to finalize these discussions.

B. United Nations Development Programme

18. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) continued its technical support to the multi-sectoral development efforts of all 51 member States of OIC. This support was provided mainly within the framework of UNDP country, regional, interregional and global programmes. In addition, technical assistance to some of these countries was provided from UNDP Special Programme Resources, and under certain other arrangements, including trust funds being administered by UNDP, namely, the United Nations Capital Development Fund, the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development, the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration, the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office and the United Nations Development Fund for Women. The following examples are illustrative of technical cooperation rendered by UNDP to OIC member States during the period under review.

19. In countries such as Pakistan and Bangladesh, human development strategies have been formulated with active assistance from UNDP. These strategies have become part of the respective countries' medium-term plans and a basis for their dialogue with donors. Comprehensive human development initiatives have been undertaken in countries such as Egypt and Tunisia with technical support from UNDP.

20. In order to disseminate the ideas of human development among academicians, policy makers and other professional groups, symposia and seminars have been organized with substantial support from UNDP. In April 1993, a seminar on Human Development in the Arab region was held at Amman, in which UNDP took an active part.

21. In Afghanistan, UNDP financed some US$ 12 million in rehabilitation assistance in 1992. The activity, focusing, inter alia, upon the provision of seeds and livestock and the repair of irrigation systems, was carried out by the UNDP Office for Project Services, and by FAO, mainly through local non-governmental organizations, in northern, western and southern Afghanistan.

22. UNDP provided emergency relief assistance for the floods in Iran in 1992 and extended support to various science and technology projects in the country.

23. UNDP continued as the lead organization for technical cooperation among Islamic countries in the United Nations system. In this capacity, it participated in the meeting between the Focal Points of the Lead Agencies of the United Nations system and OIC, held at Geneva in October 1992. Its representative took the opportunity to brief representatives of OIC and its specialized institutions on the adoption of the programme approach with progressive emphasis on national execution in UNDP country programme activities. Within that framework, future collaboration with OIC may be foreseen in programmes at the country level for which the relevant OIC institutions may have a comparative advantage.

C. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

24. Within the framework of their Cooperation Agreement, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and OIC have continued to expand their cooperation in areas relating to refugees and global humanitarian problems of common interest as a matter of priority.

25. The High Commissioner's participation in December 1992 in the sixth extraordinary session of the Islamic Conference on Bosnia-Herzegovina and her visit in January 1993 to the Headquarters of OIC at Jeddah have certainly constituted a step forward in the two organizations' common search for humanitarian solutions to the increasingly complex refugee situation.

26. With regard to the cooperation of UNHCR with the specialized institutions of OIC, it is worth noting that a number of concrete steps have been taken to implement the terms of the Special Agreement signed in May 1991 between UNHCR and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO). This Agreement provides for general and permanent cooperation, including the exchange of expertise, regular meetings of a joint commission and mutual benefits in staff and services.

27. Similar progress has also been made in the ongoing consultations with IsDB regarding the conclusion of a cooperation agreement in areas of assistance to refugees in Islamic countries and to refugee Muslim communities in different parts of the world.

28. Finally, in the field of promotion and dissemination of refugee law, UNHCR and OIC are exploring further opportunities to organize jointly, seminars and conferences on asylum and refugee law in different Islamic countries.

D. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

29. Cooperation of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) with OIC continued, focusing on the major activities outlined in ensuing paragraphs.

Meetings

30. FAO presented a background paper entitled "Technical Cooperation among Islamic Countries" at the Meeting of Focal Points of Heads of Specialized Agencies, which took place at Geneva from 27 to 29 October 1992.

31. FAO also attended a meeting on the Uruguay Round, organized by the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade and held at Casablanca in October 1992, and the Second OIC/United Nations Sectoral Meeting on Science and Technology with Special Emphasis on the Environment, held at Dhaka in December 1992.

32. The FAO Regional Conference for the Near East, held at Tehran during May 1992, was attended by several Ministers for Agriculture from OIC member countries.

Investment projects for agricultural development

33. Eighteen agricultural investment projects, prepared with the assistance of the FAO Investment Centre, were approved for financing by multilateral institutions. Total investments involved in these projects were estimated at US$ 467 million, of which the sum of US$ 365 million was from external sources (mainly the World Bank/International Development Association, the African Development Bank/Fund, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the United Nations Capital Development Fund); the balance was committed by the 15 recipient countries.

34. FAO completed the formulation of 17 additional investment projects in OIC countries for eventual consideration by financing institutions; conducted four subsector surveys; and assisted Governments with 21 project completion reports (to assess achievements after loan disbursal). Nine UNDP/FAO technical assistance projects were visited in order to investigate their investment potential.

Forestry

35. Cooperation in this field has covered a range of activities undertaken within the framework of various forestry projects in OIC countries (at both country and regional levels) in the areas of land rehabilitation, sand dune stabilization and desertification control, afforestation and agroforestry, development of forest resources, environmental protection and food security, research and development and promotion of forestry planning and policy. Emphasis is being placed on the strengthening of national institutions and of human resources, the development of self-reliance, the promotion of regional cooperation and the exchange of expertise and experience among OIC countries.

36. Collaboration between FAO and OIC countries continued in reciprocal participation in high-level meetings, technical workshops, regional conferences and seminars, such as the Seminar on Development of Mountain Regions in North West Tunisia (16-17 July 1992); the Third Arab Conference on New Trends in Pulp Processing, Paper Printing and Packaging Industries (Amman, 13-15 October 1992); the Sixth Session of the Council of Arab Ministers of Environment (Cairo, 15 October 1992); the Second Consultation of the Arab League Educational, Cultural, and Scientific Organization (ALECSO) on Desertification in the Countries of the Greenbelt (Tunis, 25-28 November 1992); the International Conference on Women and Environment (Alexandria, Egypt, 1-3 December 1992); and the International Symposium on the National Conservation Strategy (Amman, 6-9 December 1992).

Information systems

37. Thirty-five OIC member States participated in the International Information System for the Agricultural Sciences and Technology (AGRIS) and in the Current Agricultural Research Information System (CARIS), in a world-wide network of 173 AGRIS and 137 CARIS centres. Through the AGRIS and CARIS mechanism, OIC centres can exchange information among themselves and with the other centres of this network.

38. FAO has continued to provide assistance on request to strengthen national and regional agricultural documentation capacities. FAO advisory and training missions were carried out in seven OIC countries, and nationals from three countries received briefings and training in Rome.

Food security

39. This is one of the areas of cooperation between FAO and OIC which is given priority. FAO through its Food Security Assistance Scheme (FSAS) continues to provide technical assistance to a number of OIC countries in their efforts to strengthen their food security. During the period from March 1992 to February 1993, eight projects, with a total budget of US$ 15.6 million, were operational in seven OIC member countries. These included projects for establishing or strengthening national early warning and food information systems in Benin, Cameroon, Niger, Senegal and the Sudan; a project for village level storage in Benin; and a project for food security policy and planning assistance in Chad.

40. FSAS assistance in the formulation of comprehensive national food security programmes in Chad, Niger and Benin has also been proceeding as planned. In Chad, a comprehensive food security strategic framework report with recommendations on follow-up action is being finalized, and preparations are under way for the convening of a sector round table for rural development and food security in 1993. In Niger, the final food security strategy report was prepared in early 1993 for consideration by the new Government. In Benin, the assessment and problem identification phase was completed in October 1992, and the programme report is being finalized for consideration at a sector round-table discussion in 1993.

41. In addition, FAO has been assisting in the formulation of subregional food security strategies for Central and West Africa, where a number of countries are

also members of OIC. These strategies identify actions needed by both the national and subregional levels to resolve problems of food insecurity at the household level. Their structure and recommendations are in accord with the resolutions adopted by OIC Ministers following the Dakar Symposium on Food Security which was held in November 1991. The strategy and action programme for Central Africa have already been endorsed by the Governing Bodies of the Economic Community of Western African States and the Union pour le Développement Economique de l'Afrique Centrale, and is ready for implementation. It is expected that further assistance will be provided to OIC members in West and Central Africa during 1993 for the formulation of national food security strategies in accordance with OIC resolutions.

Agricultural policy, sector analysis and statistics

42. Technical assistance was provided to a number of OIC member countries in various forms. Examples include a review of the agriculture sector in Yemen taking into consideration the unification of the South and North; an assessment of the damages to Kuwait's agriculture sector resulting from the Gulf War of 1990 and the recommendations for rehabilitation needs; a review of the rehabilitation requirements for agriculture in Lebanon; and, preparation of a project document for the Islamic Republic of Iran on assistance in agricultural planning and policy analysis. Several successful activities related to training in policy analysis, project planning and decentralized planning undertaken during the course of 1992 also required technical assistance.

Unilateral Trust Fund (UTF) programme

43. FAO cooperation is also increasing with the Islamic Republic of Iran under UTF arrangements whereby Iran is the donor and recipient country at the same time. Following the approval of a major fisheries project in 1992, two important projects have been signed and financed entirely by Iran in 1993 for a total of nearly US$ 8 million in the fields of renewable national resources and forestry development.

44. In Saudi Arabia, the multidisciplinary technical assistance programme, financed entirely by the Government of Saudi Arabia under UTF arrangements, continued with an annual delivery of over US$ 10 million. The programme consists of (a) provision of direct support for strengthening the various departments of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water; and (b) provision of technical assistance to specific agricultural development projects in the fields of horticulture, range and animal development, soil survey and land classification, and water development and fish farming.

E. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

45. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), as the lead agency of the United Nations system for education and the eradication of illiteracy, as well as for human resources development, basic education and training, participated in the United Nations/OIC Meeting of Focal Points, held at Geneva from 27 to 29 October 1992. In the area of basic

education and training, UNESCO continues to cooperate mainly with its counterpart lead agency in OIC, ISESCO, through a series of joint activities.

46. The Second Joint Meeting between the secretariats of UNESCO and OIC was convened at UNESCO headquarters on 3 and 4 November 1992 to review present cooperation and to exchange views on future activities. A number of areas requiring attention as a matter of priority were identified for increased cooperation between the two organizations, notably:

(a) In the field of culture, special emphasis was placed on the cultural heritage of Jerusalem, the Arabia Plan and the cultural strategy for the Muslim world;

(b) In the field of education, basic education, literacy and human resources development continued to lead the list of items to be given priority. Special attention was also given to the UNESCO/United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) project on the Nine Largest and Most Populous Countries and to education in the occupied territories for refugees and liberation movements and the Koranic schools (a seminar on the role of Koranic schools in the universalization of basic education was organized jointly by UNESCO and ISESCO at Khartoum, from 20 to 24 July 1993);

(c) In the field of sciences, increased cooperation with the Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development (IFSTAD) was called for;

(d) In the field of communication, the OIC project "ISLAMVISION" and the Islamic Information Strategy were selected as privileged areas for cooperation between the two organizations.

47. The fourth meeting of the joint UNESCO/ISESCO Commission took place at UNESCO headquarters from 6 to 8 April 1993. A number of activities in the various fields of competence of the two organizations were retained for cooperation through joint venture arrangements.

F. United Nations Industrial Development Organization

48. UNIDO has maintained fruitful cooperation with OIC and its specialized institutions in various fields related to industrial development.

49. In cooperation with the IFSTAD and the Jeddah Chamber of Commerce and Industry, UNIDO contributed to the organization of a seminar on Appraisal and Implementation Management of Industrial Investment Projects. The purpose of the seminar was to widen the applications of modern, proven methodologies of investment project appraisal and implementation management in IFSTAD member countries.

50. Also in cooperation with IFSTAD, the Turkish Higher Scientific Council and the Arab School of Science and Technology (ASST) at Damascus, UNIDO will consider co-sponsoring a seminar on high definition television and its implications for OIC member countries. ASST has offered to host the seminar.

51. IsDB has indicated its intention to contribute towards the establishment of a regional centre for new and advanced materials in the Arab region, which is to be implemented by UNIDO in cooperation with regional organizations.

52. UNIDO has responded positively to a request by IFSTAD to take advantage of the services provided by the UNIDO database, including the Industrial and Technological Information Bank.

III. COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat

53. During the period under review, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat kept OIC informed of emergency relief assistance extended to the following member States of OIC: Albania, Afghanistan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey, Tajikistan, Egypt, Djibouti, Iraq, Lebanon, Mauritania, Somalia, the Sudan and Yemen. According to the needs of these countries, the Department dispatched relief coordination officers who assisted in an assessment of the situation, launched an appeal for international aid, raised funds, organized airlifts of relief goods and assisted in local coordination.

54. The Department has undertaken in member States of OIC, several projects on the technical aspects of disaster preparedness and prevention and assisted in the preparation of comprehensive disaster management projects to be implemented by the Governments concerned in Tajikistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Algeria and Egypt.

55. The Department has organized national workshops on disaster management in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Lebanon, the Sudan, Turkey and Yemen. Similar workshops are planned for 1993 in Bangladesh, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan. In addition, a regional workshop for francophone OIC member States in Africa will also be organized during 1993.

B. United Nations Children's Fund

56. The past year has seen enhanced cooperation between the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and OIC. The purpose of UNICEF advocacy with OIC is regularly to reinforce the commitment of its leaders, peoples and institutions to implement the Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children, held in New York in September 1990. The OIC Summit held at Dakar in December 1991 did indeed declare its support for the World Summit's goals.

57. In March 1993, following an exchange of letters between the Executive Director of UNICEF and the Secretary-General of OIC, the Assistant Secretary-General of OIC visited New York for consultations. At those meetings, agreement was reached on enhanced collaboration between the two organizations, for the benefit of children and women.

58. Subsequently, a UNICEF team attended the Twenty-First Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers at Karachi, Pakistan, from 25 to 29 April 1993.

59. The Conference adopted a resolution urging all 51 member States to finalize and implement national programmes of action for children, and strongly urging ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The resolution, on Child Care and Protection in the Islamic World, requested that the necessary steps be taken to bring constitutions, laws and practices into conformity with the provisions of the Convention, once ratified.

60. In a separate resolution, the Conference requested the General Secretariat to hold further consultations among member States regarding the proposal for the establishment of an International Islamic Women's Organization. The resolution further mandates the OIC General Secretariat, with the assistance of UNICEF, to convene a symposium on the role of women in social development, with special emphasis on education and health.

C. United Nations Population Fund

61. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has been supporting a wide range of population activities in Muslim countries since the very inception of the Fund and remains the largest multilateral source of assistance in this area.

62. Rapid population growth in many Muslim countries remains one of the obstacles to social and economic development. The Arab Population Conference was held at Amman in April 1993 and adopted, unanimously, the Second Amman Declaration which demonstrates considerable progress in the Arab world on several major questions. Specific recommendations on Maternal Child Health/Family Planning (MCH/FP) were endorsed, particularly those calling up on Governments to make family planning services available. The importance of the role and status of women was emphasized. A separate section on the role of non-government organizations was added, at the suggestion of those organizations present.

63. The Third African Population Conference on "Population, Family and Sustainable Development" was held at Dakar in December 1992. The Conference was attended by, among others, 42 sub-Saharan and six North African countries. The meeting set health and demographic objectives for Africa as a whole.

64. The strategy for UNFPA assistance in Muslim countries focuses on the improvement of a framework for population programmes and seeks to draw attention to the population factors in the context of socio-economic development.

65. MCH/FP activities receive the largest share of UNFPA assistance to Muslim countries. MCH/FP projects are typically aimed at rural inhabitants, the urban poor, women and youth.

66. UNFPA has continued to provide support to many Muslim countries in the area of data collection and analysis to ensure that they have accurate, up-to-date demographic information to develop their population policies and programmes and to measure progress in the implementation of such programmes and policies.

67. The second Demographic and Family Health Survey in the Gulf countries is being carried out under joint programming with the World Health Orgaanization (WHO), UNICEF, UNFPA, the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND) and the Governments of the Gulf countries. The results will be utilized for further improvement of maternal and child health in the region.

68. Similarly, the Pan-Arab Project for Maternal and Child Health Development, which is also a joint programme of UNFPA, AGFUND, UNICEF, WHO, the League of Arab States and the United Nations, has provided detailed socio-economic, demographic and health data, including family planning and maternal mortality for Mauritania, Algeria, Egypt, the Sudan, Yemen and the Syrian Arab Republic. The second phase of the project will cover seven other Arab countries.

69. Enhancing the status of women in the family and society and promoting their active participation in the socio-economic development of Muslim countries are areas of concern as a matter of priority in the Fund's strategy of assistance. UNFPA together with other agencies and organizations, including AGFUND, has supported the creation of the Arab Women's Centre for Research and Training located in Tunisia. The activities of the Centre will include action programmes aimed at improving the status of women in the community and maximizing their contribution to population and development.

D. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

70. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) keeps OIC informed about its activities and programmes through public information and other materials which are regularly sent to the OIC secretariat at Jeddah. At the same time, UNRWA maintains good relations with IsDB, which is an organ of OIC. UNRWA has officially expressed its interest in attending, as an observer, the annual meetings of OIC. The Commissioner-General plans to call up on the Secretary-General of OIC as soon as arrangements can be made.

71. UNRWA participated in the General Meeting between representations of the United Nations system and OIC, which was held at Geneva in November 1991, and will take part in similar meetings in the future.

E. World Food Programme

72. The World Food Programme (WFP) has continued to reduce poverty and hunger in many of the OIC countries. It approved 96 projects in 26 OIC countries in 1992, 42 of which are under implementation in sub-Saharan African countries, 32 in Arab States and 22 in Asia. There are currently 34 active emergency operations in 16 OIC countries. Arab States, particularly Somalia and the Sudan, account for the major share of 1992 emergency food aid commitments to OIC countries. Of the current commitments to 20 protracted and displaced persons in 10 OIC countries, more than half are accounted for operations in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

73. WFP pursues a multi-pronged approach to poverty alleviation. Highlights of development projects in OIC member States are given in the ensuing paragraphs.

1. Agriculture and rural development, including land reclamation and settlement and rural infrastructure

74. With its food-for-work project, WFP has helped Burkina Faso, in expanding irrigated farmlands; Gambia, in opening up new swamp rice fields and constructing new infrastructures; the Syrian Arab Republic in tree planting; Pakistan, in soil conservation schemes and in limiting erosion and deforestation; and Egypt, in supporting desert reclamation and land settlement.

2. Human resources development: education, health and nutrition

75. In Bangladesh, WFP is supporting 500,000 women annually, for a period of two years each, to develop basic and economic skills that will enable them steadily to move out of abject poverty and reduce their vulnerability to frequent natural disasters. The women reached by the project are drawn from the poorest 5 per cent of the country's population.

76. In Morocco, WFP is supporting a nationwide primary school feeding programme which has enabled the Government and communities increasingly to assume the responsibility for supplying the school canteens from their own resources.

77. In Tunisia, WFP targets its assistance specifically to schools in deprived rural communities, so as to reduce urban-rural disparities in national enrolment levels and educational access and attainment.

78. In Pakistan, a school feeding programme is specifically targeted to girls' primary schools in the poorest province of the country, Baluchistan.

F. Economic Commission for Africa

79. Since 1989, several divisions of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) have either been exploring ways of cooperation or actively collaborating with specialized institutions of OIC, such as IsDB, the Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI) of IsDB, ISESCO and IFSTAD.

80. During the period from 1989 to 1993, activities relating to science and technology, trade, industrial cooperation and the Pan-African Development Information System were carried out or envisaged between ECA and OIC specialized agencies.

Science and technology

81. Following a proposal from ECA, IFSTAD agreed to participate and share with ECA the costs involved in the preparation of subregional conferences for the development of policies in science and technology in West Africa, East Africa and Central Africa. The conferences are scheduled to take place in 1993. Also,

IFSTAD agreed to fund 50 per cent of the costs of a training programme on technology assessment in East Africa scheduled to take place in 1993 at Kampala.

82. These areas of cooperation encourage ECA to seek further cooperation with OIC in the implementation of other projects on the development of science and technology, namely, the establishment of national research and development corporations, and the conduct of studies on reinforcement of food self-sufficiency and security by prevention of losses after harvest.

Trade

83. Assisted by IsDB, ECA organized in 1992 a regional workshop intended to enhance the ability of participants in export marketing, import management and procurement.

84. ECA is also planning to cooperate with OIC and the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA) in the implementation of "Strategies for Revitalization, Recovery and Growth of Africa's Trade in the 1990s and Beyond". In addition, ECA wishes to explore areas of cooperation with OIC and its specialized institutions in the implementation of the 1992-1993 ECA programme of work on Africa's external debt crisis.

Industrial cooperation

85. ECA and IsDB organized, in 1989, a workshop followed by a study tour on the manufacture of agricultural tools, implements and machinery in the North African subregion.

86. ECA and IsDB agreed to organize jointly six regional workshops within the framework of the ECA industrial development programme as follows: (a) Cooperation in the Efficient Utilization of Existing Fertilizer Production Units in Africa; (b) Development of the Processing of Medicinal Plants; (c) Industrial Planning, Data and Policy Formulation in East and Southern Africa; (d) Industrial Planning, Data and Policy Formulation in Central Africa; (e) Development of Entrepreneurial Capability for Cottage and Small-scale Industries in Anglophone African Countries; and (f) Development of Entrepreneurial Capability for Cottage and Small-scale Industries in Francophone African Countries.

Pan-African Development Information System

87. The Pan-African Development Information System (PADIS) has fruitful relations with ISESCO, IsDB and IRTI. PADIS usually attends the meetings of IsDB and is studying the possibility of cooperation with ISESCO and IRTI in exchanging information and data related to development.

G. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

88. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) was represented at the OIC United Nations Sectoral Meeting on Science and Technology with Special Emphasis on Environment, which was held at Dhaka in December 1992. At that meeting, the possible participation of OIC countries, especially those

from the Asia-Pacific region, in the activities of various ESCAP networks, such as in the field of environment and desertification control was raised. OIC has also sought the support of ESCAP regarding expert services for training activities for the transfer of environmental technology. Cooperation is also envisaged in the development of case-studies, tools and methodologies under the different programme areas of ESCAP on environment, including environmental awareness, integration of environment and development, management of terrestrial ecosystems, protection of marine environment and related ecosystems and global environmental issues.

H. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

89. Although direct cooperation between the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and OIC during the reporting period was fairly limited, many joint activities were undertaken with its specialized agencies, namely, IsDB and IFSTAD, as well as with the newly established Islamic Network on Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology.

90. In the field of natural resources, close cooperation continued between ESCWA and IsDB in the implementation of an ESCWA project on "Assessment of Water Resources using Remote Sensing Techniques in the ESCWA Region". The ESCWA secretariat has also expressed its readiness to execute jointly a similar project covering other Islamic countries. IsDB also took an active part in the ESCWA "International Symposium on Gas Development and Market Prospects for the Year 2000 and Beyond", which was held at Damascus, during the second quarter of 1992.

91. In addition, ESCWA initiated cooperation for joint implementation with the IsDB of a regional project on "Biomass - Environmentally Sound Energy Source for Sustainable Development of Rural Areas in Selected ESCWA Countries". Furthermore, IsDB support has been sought for implementation of the ESCWA regional programme for the development of renewable sources of energy.

92. In the area of industry, ESCWA and IFSTAD, along with other regional and international organizations, co-sponsored the Second Arab Conference on "Perspectives of Modern Biotechnology", which was held at Amman in April 1993. IsDB is co-financing with ESCWA, the Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development a study on "The Development of Engineering Infrastructure in the Arab Countries", which is currently under preparation. ESCWA, IsDB, IFSTAD, and ICGEB are co-sponsoring a training course on "Tissue Culture Techniques and Applications in Industry and Agriculture", which is to be held at Cairo, in October 1993. Moreover, ESCWA is cooperating with IDB, IFSTAD and UNIDO in co-sponsoring a training course on "Integrated Circuits Design", to be held in Saudi Arabia during the first quarter of 1994.

93. In the field of science and technology, IsDB contributed funds to support consultants and cover expenses of participants from the Islamic countries in the ESCWA workshop on the "Implications of New and Advanced Materials for the Economies of the ESCWA Countries", which was held at Damascus in September 1992. There were regular exchanges of information on work programmes and meetings between ESCWA and IFSTAD. In response to an invitation from IFSTAD, ESCWA

representatives were scheduled to participate in the eleventh session of the IFSTAD Scientific Consultative Council (Governing Board), which was to be convened at Cairo in June 1993. Meanwhile, ESCWA has invited IFSTAD and IsDB to participate in the ESCWA workshop on the "Integration of Science and Technology in the Development Planning Process". The workshop is to be organized by ESCWA in cooperation with UNIDO and the Jordan Higher Council for Science and Technology, and is to be held at Amman in September 1993. Furthermore, ESCWA intends to invite IFSTAD and IsDB to take part in the activities currently under way regarding establishment of an ESCWA regional centre for outer space science and technology education.

94. In the field of human settlements, ESCWA organized a symposium on "Low Cost Housing in the Arab Region" in cooperation with IsDB and the Yemeni Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning, which was held in October 1992 in the Republic of Yemen.

95. In conclusion, though one may observe that significant cooperation exists between ESCWA and the specialized agencies of OIC, there remains room for the expansion and strengthening of such cooperation. Action has already been taken to intensify such cooperation in the near future. Upon the request of IsDB, ESCWA sent a roster of its experts in different fields for IsDB to draw on when needed. Furthermore, ESCWA expressed to the IsDB its willingness to cooperate in assessing and evaluating development activities and projects financed by the IsDB in the Occupied Arab Territories.

I. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

96. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) is currently implementing a wide range of specific technical cooperation projects in 23 member countries of OIC. Undertaken upon request of the countries concerned, these projects cover a full range of human settlements activities and indirectly promote technical cooperation among the Islamic countries themselves.

97. UNCHS (Habitat) is also executing regional and global projects that support OIC member States as follows: "Strengthening National Capabilities in the Shelter Sector in English-speaking African and Asian countries"; "Training of Trainers in Municipal Services Management"; "South Asia Regional Local Government Development Programme"; and "Regional Exchange Programme for Urban Management".

98. Finally, UNCHS (Habitat) has participated in several national, regional, interregional and/or international meetings, conducted in OIC member States. The most recent conference was the "Arab Regional Conference on National Shelter Strategies", held at Cairo in December 1992.

J. International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

99. The International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) has carried out several activities of significant importance in member countries of OIC.

100. Within the project on "Improving African Women's Role in the Informal Sector, Production and Management" funded by UNDP, INSTRAW has organized two activities in Burkina Faso, namely, a regional workshop on the "Compilation and Analysis of Statistics concerning Women's Activities in the Informal Sector and their Contribution to the National Product", held at Ouagadougou in October 1990; and a national training seminar on The Use of Statistics on the Role of Women in the Informal Sector", held at Ouagadougou in August 1991. Also, within the same project, a national training workshop on "The Compilation of Statistics on Women in the Informal Sector" was held at Kombo Beach, Gambia, in May 1991.

101. In response to a request received from the Government of Turkey, the Directorate-General on the Status and Problems of Women of INSTRAW assisted in the organization of the first national workshop on statistics and indicators on women in Turkey, held at Ankara from 21 to 23 October 1992. This workshop focused primarily on four major areas, namely, women and health, women and employment, women and education, and special groups of women. At present, preparations are under way for the holding of a subregional workshop in Morocco in December 1993 on statistics on women.

102. In its programme of work for the forthcoming biennium, INSTRAW envisages undertaking activities in some OIC member States, thus further strengthening the collaboration between INSTRAW and OIC.

K. International Labour Organisation

1. Employment

103. The International Labour Organisation (ILO)/UNDP project on job creation in Egypt (budget: $397,149) puts into action the Government's endorsement of the report of the ILO Multidisciplinary Programming Mission, mounted at the request of the Egyptian Government within the context of the issue of unemployment and return migrants.

104. The ILO/UNDP project on labour information network with emphasis on the private sector (budget: $729,700) aims to improve labour data and information proceeding through establishing a computer communication network covering the offices in Egypt.

105. The ILO/UNDP regional project on "Support to Arab Migration Policies" organized a regional seminar to discuss findings to the studies undertaken within the framework of the said project. A proposal for the regional project on migration policies of the Arab labour-sending countries was formulated in accordance with the recommendations at the above regional seminar.

2. Training

106. The "Skills Development Programme for Arab Countries" (SDEPAC) continued its operations. SDEPAC organized regional seminars on skill testing and certification and on the integration of women in training activities, as well as on return migration and its implications on training. SDEPAC also played a

catalytic role in arranging technical assistance on the same basis as that used to give technical cooperation to developing countries.

107. With respect to vocational rehabilitation, a regional seminar on "Increasing Participation of Disabled Persons in Cooperative Movements in the ESCWA Region" was organized early in 1992 in collaboration with the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Office at Vienna to formulate the strategies for promoting the participation of disabled persons in cooperative movements. The multidisciplinary missions to Qatar and Bahrain reviewed the policies, programmes and institutions related to vocational rehabilitation. Also, in Kuwait a new project in this technical field which was approved by UNDP became operational.

3. Enterprise and cooperative development

108. With the funding commitment by the Egyptian Government, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and ILO agreed to revitalize the project on extension services to small and middle-sized industries.

109. The new ILO/Danish International Development Agency project in Egypt on promotion of employment productivity and income of cooperative settlers in new lands (phase III) which was approved in 1992, aims to improve the existing socio-economic conditions of the settlers.

110. With regard to enterprise development, two UNDP-funded projects, one on small enterprise development in rural areas and the other, on the establishment of industrial extension services, were implemented in Jordan. A multidisciplinary mission to Bahrain covered the issue of enterprise development.

4. Other technical fields

111. The Regional Arab Programme for Labour Administration (RAPLA) continued its activities. It organized two training courses, namely, training of trainers on labour inspection in collaboration with the Arab Occupational Safety and Health Institute; and training activities related to the translation of various ILO manuals into the Arabic languages. Also, RAPLA prepared a guide on labour administration in the Arab countries. A proposal for the third phase of the project was formulated in consultation with the concerned parties and agreement had been reached in principle on its financing.

112. Assistance on labour statistics included the establishment of a Labour Information Network in Egypt and a Database for Human Resources Development in Pakistan, and implementation of a project on Improvement of the Labour Market Information System in Turkey.

113. The ILO/UNDP project on occupational safety and health in the Syrian Arab Republic continued its operation. The Office fielded two consultants to the United Arab Emirates in order to assist the Ministry of Labour in conducting its national seminar on labour inspection and occupational safety and health.

114. In the field of social security, a short-term project funded by UNDP was implemented in Yemen. A multidisciplinary mission to Qatar assessed the need for assistance in connection with improving the social security scheme. A new trust fund project on actuarial valuation in Kuwait was approved.

L. International Civil Aviation Organization

115. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) welcomes the programme of meetings between the organizations of the United Nations system and OIC. ICAO remains ready to cooperate with OIC, within its area of responsibility, and continues to provide technical assistance to a great many States members of OIC.

116. The Memorandum of Understanding between ICAO and IsDB which came into effect recalls the vital contribution of civil aviation to the social and economic development of IsDB countries and provides for cooperation between ICAO and IsDB in the development of civil aviation projects. At the present time, however, no joint technical cooperation projects are under study.

M. World Bank

117. The World Bank continues to support economic and social programmes in individual OIC member States through its lending and selected activities, namely, policy dialogue, technical assistance and aid coordination. During the calendar year 1992, the Bank committed almost US$ 5.5 billion to development projects and programmes in these countries, of which almost US$ 1.5 billion were funded by the International Development Association, the Bank's concessional arm. Assistance provided by the Bank was concentrated in the areas of power and energy, agriculture and rural development, urban development, structural adjustment and education as a matter of priority.

N. International Monetary Fund

118. The African Department of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) continues to be actively involved in assisting the 20 member countries of OIC that are covered by the Department. The main vehicles for such cooperation include financial assistance, external debt and aid coordination and the provision of technical assistance, as well as policy advice regarding the elaboration and implementation of Fund-supported programmes, within the context of regular consultation discussions. The outstanding use of IMF resources by the member countries of OIC covered by the African Department amounted to SDR 2.1 billion at the end of 1992. Moreover, the Fund provided technical assistance to these countries in several areas, including the banking sector, financial reform, budgetary policies, external debt, the exchange system, statistics and social safety nets. Resident experts and resident representatives of IMF are also stationed in a number of the OIC member countries.

119. The Middle Eastern Department continues to assist the member countries of OIC that are covered by the Department. The Department provided technical assistance in banking, budgeting, statistics and tax policy organized and attended seminars, and sent technical assistance and programme review missions

of consultation to these countries during 1992. During 1992, other OIC countries in Asia, namely, Bangladesh, Indonesia and Maldives, received missions of consultation, as well as review and technical assistance missions in connection with social security reform, design of fiscal policy, review of the structure and operations of the monetary and exchange system.

O. Universal Postal Union

120. Universal Postal Union (UPU) recently took the initiative of establishing relations with OIC, sending it documentation about postal development in the countries covered by that organization and asking to be sent, in turn, all OIC documents with a view to laying the foundation for an exchange of information and practical proposals for active cooperation between the two organizations.

121. The UPU International Bureau upholds its offer of collaboration and is willing to establish machinery for sectoral consultation in its area of competence, via postal services, if that sector is one for which OIC provides a substantive contribution to its member countries.

P. World Meteorological Organization

122. The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) continued its cooperation with OIC in regions of OIC, namely, African, Arab and Asian, by providing short-term and long-term fellowships, organizing workshops, facilitating participation in several seminars and purchasing data-processing and meteorological equipment. For these, the available resources from UNDP the WMO regular budget and the WMO Voluntary Cooperation Programme were utilized.

123. Technical assistance projects funded through UNDP were implemented to strengthen national meteorological and hydrological services in order to enable them to provide the necessary data and information for socio-economic development projects and for the effective monitoring of climatic changes and the protection of the atmospheric environment. The following are countries which received technical assistance under UNDP during 1992:

African States: Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Uganda;

Arab States: Algeria, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen;

Asian States: Bangladesh, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia and Pakistan.

124. Trust fund projects were also supported in Burkina Faso, the Gambia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Senegal and the Sudan. Using Global Environment Facility funding (US$ 4.8 million), the project "Global Monitoring of Greenhouse Gases including Ozone" was promoted. It involves two OIC countries, namely, Algeria and Indonesia.

125. While recognizing that, following the United Nations Conference on Environmental Development, national execution in operational activities for development is a leading principle concerning projects to be implemented under Agenda 21 and the Framework Convention on Climate Change, WMO also gives due consideration to the importance of regional projects.

126. A number of intercountry activities were carried out during the reporting period with a view to strengthening the national capabilities and promoting technical cooperation for developing countries in response to the expressed needs for increased cooperation among member countries of OIC. Three main projects/programmes are worth mentioning: (a) The African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD); (b) The Regional Training Centre for Agrometeorological and Hydrological Operations and their Applications (AGRHYMET) Programme; and (c) Training in Meteorology for Manpower Development in South-East Asia and the South Pacific.

127. WMO, within its area of responsibility and competence, is prepared to continue and expand its cooperation with OIC and its specialized agencies and institutions, in order to enhance its contribution to the sustainable development of the member countries through the use of meteorological and hydrological data and products.

Q. International Maritime Organization

128. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) conducted the following activities in OIC member countries.

National activities

Algeria

Specialized Training of Seafarers and Technical Shore-based Personnel (ALG/89/001);

Yemen

Maritime Training Centre (YEM/92/024);

Senegal

(a) Rehabilitation and Protection of the Bays of Dakar (SEN/87/021);

(b) Plan of Action for the Protection of the Senegalese Waters and Coasts (SEN/91/001).

Bangladesh

Improvement of Hydrographic Services (BGD/83/005);

Examination, Survey and Administration, Phase II (BGD/87/024);

Indonesia

Keep our Coastline and Beaches Clean (INS/NOR/IMO/02);

Islamic Republic of Iran

Training at the World Maritime University (IRA/90/011);

Pakistan

Maritime Training at the World Maritime University (PAK/90/011);

Turkey

Maritime Safety Training Centre, Phase II (TUR/88/008).

Regional activities

African States

(a) Assistance to the Association of African Maritime Training Institutes (AAMTI) (RAF/86/050);

(b) Human resources and Institutional Development in the Sub-Sahara Transport Sector (RAF/89/026).

Arab States

(a) Regional Training at AMTA, Sharjah (RAB/88/010);

(b) Assistance to the Association of African Maritime Training Institutes (AAMTI) (RAB/86/023).

Asian and Pacific States

(a) Regional Seminars on Dangerous Goods (RAS/86/162);

(b) Safety of Loadline Operation, Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) (RAS/86/184);

(c) Technical Port Operations, ASEAN (RAS/90/009);

(d) Model courses at Asia and Pacific Branches of the World Maritime University (RAB/89/053).

R. World Intellectual Property Organization

129. Within the framework of the programme of cooperation between the United Nations and OIC, in 1992, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) undertook a series of consultations with OIC and its affiliates, namely, IsDB

and IFSTAD, designed to create a mechanism for regular and effective cooperation with these institutions.

130. An agreement of cooperation between WIPO and OIC was signed by the Director-General of WIPO and the Secretary-General of OIC, at Jeddah on 3 September 1992. The Agreement reaffirms the determination of both organization to establish close consultations and cooperation in order to facilitate the attainment of the objectives set forth in their respective constituent instruments. The Agreement regulates the participation and status of each organization in the meetings of the established bodies and diplomatic conferences convened by the other organization. The Agreement also establishes procedures regarding cooperation in the organization of joint meetings, and provides for the exchange of information documents, periodicals and other materials, as well as for special services and technical assistance which WIPO may be called upon to render.

131. Also in September 1992 a WIPO official held high-level consultations at IsDB at Jeddah concerning ways and means of initiating cooperation between the two organizations. As a result, discussions are under way for a workshop on industrial property licensing and technology transfer arrangements to be jointly organized by WIPO and IsDB. Talks were also held with IFSTAD which resulted in the undertaking by both parties to improve cooperation between them.

132. In addition, cooperation continued with the interested member States of OIC in areas such as strengthening of national infrastructure for industrial property and copyright administration; improvement of national industrial property and copyright legislation; and promotion of innovation and training in the fields of industrial property or copyright organized at the national, subregional and regional levels.

133. In the case of regional meetings, nationals of countries members of OIC attended a wide range of such programmes organized by WIPO in the African, Arab and Asian regions. These programmes included seminars and training activities on industrial property and related matters.

S. International Fund for Agricultural Development

Investment in Islamic countries

134. As at 31 December 1992, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) had extended 148 loans to 33 OIC countries for a total project cost of US$ 7,361.06 million, out of which IFAD attributed US$ 1,677.36 million in loans and US$ 12.17 million in technical assistance grants which represents 54.4 per cent of all IFAD loans and grants of US$ 3,084.6 million, and 44 per cent of total projects (337) approved. External donors contributed US$ 2,295.44 million and recipient Governments US$ 3,375.8 million.

135. Of the 148 loans, 61 are for projects in 16 African countries members of OIC. The 34 projects in Asia benefited four out of the five OIC countries in the region (with the exception of Afghanistan). In the Near East and North African region, 54 loans benefited 12 OIC countries.

Loan conditions

136. Of the total loans extended to OIC countries, 71.6 per cent were provided on highly concessional terms, 19.6 per cent on intermediate terms and 8.8 per cent on ordinary terms, which compares favourably with the overall lending terms of IFAD of 66 per cent on highly concessional, 25 per cent on intermediate and 9 per cent on ordinary terms.

Resource mobilization

137. The investment by IFAD of US$ 1,677.36 million in 33 OIC countries has generated additional resources amounting to US$ 5,671.28 million from external donors and recipient Governments. The mobilization factor is 3.4, which implies that for every dollar lent by IFAD it generated about three and a half dollars in additional resources.

Contribution from OIC countries to IFAD

138. Under the three replenishments undertaken thus far, the 42 OIC member countries have contributed to date a total of US$ 903 million to IFAD for the initial resources (or about 29 per cent of the total resource flow to the Fund in convertible currencies). The OIC category II countries have contributed US$ 876 million (or about 83 per cent of this category's contributions). To date, 31 category III OIC countries have made contributions amounting to US$ 27 million (or 19 per cent of that category's contributions).

Projects in the pipeline

139. At present, there are 32 projects in the pipeline for OIC countries: 9 for Africa, 5 for Asia and 18 for the Near East and North Africa. This represents about 37 per cent of the total projects in the pipeline.

T. General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

140. Cooperation between the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and OIC has continued as in the previous years. GATT has continued to provide technical assistance to the member States of OIC, as appropriate, within the context of normal GATT activities and/or the Uruguay Round negotiations. GATT has also been providing opportunities for training facilities in its trade policy courses to officials of OIC member States.